GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ATOMIC ENERGY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3854
ANSWERED ON:06.08.2014
NUCLEAR POWER GENERATION
Birla Shri Om

Will the Minister of ATOMIC ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) the status of the generation of nuclear power plants in the country;

(b) the comparative details of capacity and security specification of nuclear power plants being used in power generation in developed countries vis-a-vis the plants in India;

(c) whether there is any action plan for setting up the plants at par with other developed countries; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the measures taken in this regard?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES & PENSIONS AND PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (DR. JITENDRA SINGH):

(a) There are 20 nuclear power reactors in the country with an installed generation capacity of 4780 MW. Out of the 20 reactors, Rajasthan Atomic Power Station (RAPS) unit-1 (100 MW) at Rawatbhata, Rajasthan is under extended shutdown for techno-economic assessment. Nine operating reactors with a total capacity of 1840 MW use imported fuel and are operating at their rated capacity. The other ten reactors with a total capacity of 2840 MW use indigenous fuel which is not available in the required quantity to operate them at their rated capacity. In addition, KKNPP-1 (1000 MW) at Kudankulam, Tamilnadu was connected to the grid in October, 2013, which also reached its full rated power in June 2014.

(b) The safety and security of Indian nuclear power plants are comparable to those in developed countries. As far as capacity is concerned, the unit size of Indian nuclear power plants has been increased in accordance with the grid capacity to evacuate power, from 200/220 MW to 540 MW. New units of power plants under construction have capacity of 700 MW. The unit size of reactors to be set up with foreign technical cooperation will be equal to or more than 1000 MW. In the developed countries too, the unit size of new reactors is generally 1000 MW and more.

(c) Indian nuclear power plants are already at par with those in the developed countries.

(d) Does not arise.